

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
SIXTEENTH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (16)
MARCH 31, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson Merten presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Ringgenberg, Snyder and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting. Absent: None.

Unless otherwise indicated, all the following **motions** offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, and Snyder. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to approve today's **agenda**. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: They have been blading gravel roads and hauling gravel to the roads. There is a chance of snow for Friday and Saturday, so they are putting the sanders back on. They have switched the excavators over to buckets. They are doing some tile repairs and expect more to be reported after the farmers are back in the fields. The Phase 3 meeting with IDOT will be May 12. Engineer Wilkinson has not heard when the contractor will move back in for completing the work on Phase 2.

Chairman Merten asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public** and there was none.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the two sets of **minutes** of 3/25/2026, including the Levy Public Hearing, as presented, and accept the following **reports:** February NW YES Center minutes, December E911 Service Board minutes, January E911 Service Board minutes, December NWIPDC Policy Council minutes, and December NW IA Planning & Development Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to accept and approve the Chair to sign the B&W Control Specialists **2026 Chemical Treatment** for the following BV County Drainage Districts, with the following cost not to exceed: **DD #83** (\$2,500), **DD #180** (\$1,000), **DD #34 Lat 4 OD** (\$2,500), **DD #34 Lat 5 OD** (\$3,000), **DD #34 Lat 6 OD** (\$2,500), **DD #34 Lat 7 OD** (\$2,500), **DD #34 Lat 8 OD** (\$2,500), **DD #34 Lat 9 OD** (\$3,000), **DD #106** (\$1,500), **DD #106 South Main** (\$1,000), **DD #34 MOD** (\$4,500), and **DD #34 UMOD** (\$5,000), and to authorize the BV County Drainage Department to appoint a contractor to conduct the work. Carried.

Supervisor Meeting Reports: Merten attended Central IA Juvenile Detention Center meeting and commented to the rest of the Board that if the committees they serve on are wanting to vote on topics that have an impact on the county's budget, he said that it is a good idea to get the approval from the BV County Board first before voting at the committee meeting. Croker attended the Iowa Lakes Corridor meeting yesterday. Ringgenberg informed the Board that Storm Lake United is having their annual meeting on April 7.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to go into **closed session** (at 9:00 A.M.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(c) of the 2026 Code of Iowa, to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, and Snyder. Motion carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to go out of **closed session** at 9:38 A.M. Carried.

Heidi Kuhl, Northland Securities reviewed the county's current **debt service** schedules, and mentioned to the Board that once the RISE dollars come in from the State on Phase 1 of the Platinum Crush road project, a portion of the previous \$3.5M GO Bonds could be paid off, and then the remaining portion would be refinanced.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 a.m. until Tuesday, April 7 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session. Carried.